NIGHTWISH RELOADED

*THE **RIGHT** release at the **right** time.*

*Having spectacularly defined their style with the 'Oceanborn' album, Nightwish now took things one stage further, delivering a record that – in addition to topping the charts in their native Finland – also made some **serious** inroads overseas.*

*Word on the band was spreading fast, and 'Wishmaster' (beating Iron Maiden to the 'Album Of The Month' accolade in Germany's prestigious Rock Hard magazine) was yet another landmark outing; not only was the material consistently strong, but in 'Dead Boy's Poem' it featured the track voted 'Best NW Song **Ever**' on the official website!*

'Wishmaster' (2000): a band coming of age in the international spotlight.

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Nightwish

~ Wishmaster ~

"This album includes the mother of all Nightwish songs, 'Dead Boy's Poem' - a number which took on a life of its own, becoming a kind of symbol for Nightwish's identity as a band.

"Despite this, however, 'Wishmaster' is the most distant and least personal album in the Nightwish catalogue. You could say that it continues the fantasy trip started on 'Oceanborn', ranging from the real-life tragedy of 'The Kinslayer' through to the lovers' tale of 'Come Cover Me' and on to the massive Disney feast of 'FantasMic'."

Tuomas Holopainen

She Is My Sin

Take heed, dear heart
Once apart, she can touch
Nor me nor you
Dressed as one
A wolf will betray a lamb

Lead astray the gazers
The razors on your seducing skin
In the meadow of sinful thoughts
Every flower's a perfect one

To paradise with pleasure
Haunted by fear

A sin for him
Desire within
A burning veil
For the bride too dear for him
A sin for him
Desire within
Fall in love with your deep dark sin

I am the Fallen
You are what my sins enclose
Lust is not as creative
As its discovery

To paradise with pleasure
Haunted by fear

A sin for him...

Bless me, undress me
Pick your prey in a wicked way
God I must confess...

...I do envy the sinners

The Kinslayer

For whom the gun tolls
For whom the prey weeps
Bow before a war
Call it religion

Some wounds never heal
Some tears never will
Dry for the unkind
Cry for mankind

Even the dead cry
- Their only comfort
Kill your friend. I don't care
Orchid kids, blinded stare

Need to understand
No need to forgive
No truth no sense left to be followed

"Facing this unbearable fear like meeting an old friend"
"Time to die, poor mates, You made me what I am!"
"In this world of a million religions everyone prays the same way"
"Your praying is in vain. It'll all be over soon"
"Father help me, save me a place by your side! "
"There is no god. Our creed is but for ourselves"
"Not a hero unless you die, Our species eat the wounded ones"
"Drunk with the blood of your victims
I do feel your pity-wanting pain,
Lust for fame, a deadly game"
"Run away with your impeccable kin!"
"- Good wombs hath borne bad sons..."

Cursing, God, why?
Falling for every lie
Survivor's guilt
In us forevermore

15 candles
Redeemers of this world
Dwell in hypocrisy:
"How were we supposed to know"

4 pink ones
9 blue ones
2 black ones
- In memory of the Redeemers 20.4.1999

Come Cover Me

Come wet a widow's eye
Cover the night with your love
Dry the rain from my beaten face
Drink the wine the red sweet taste of mine

Come cover me with you
For the thrill 'til you will take me in
Come comfort me in you
Young love must
Live twice only for us

For me
For you
Time devours passion's beauty
With me
With you
In war for the love of you (Tonight any dream will do)

Not a world but your fine grace
Seduction in sleepwalker's land
November dressed in May on your face
Holding us now the lovecropper's hand

Come cover me...

Wanderlust

I want to see where the sirens sing
Hear how the wolves howl
Sail the dead calm waters of the Pacific

Dance in the fields of coral
Be blinded by the white
Discover the deepest jungle

I want to find The Secret Path
A bird delivered into my heart, so

It's not the end. Not the kingdom come
It is the journey that matters, the distant wanderer
Call of the wild
In me forever and ever and ever forever
Wanderlust

I want to love by the Blue Lagoon
Kiss under waning moon
Straying, claiming my place in this mortal coil

Riding the dolphins. Asking the mountains
Dreaming Alaska. The Earth can have but Earth

I want to find...

It's not the end...

Drown into my eyes and see the wanderer
See the mirrors of a wolf behold the pathfinder

Two For Tragedy

Sleep Eden sleep
My fallen son
Slumber in peace

Cease the pain. Life's just in vain
For us to gain. Nothing but all the same

No healing hand
For your disease
Drinking scorn like water
Cascading with my tears

Beneath the candle bed
Two saddened angels –
In heaven, in death

Now let us lie
Sad we lived sad we die
Even in your pride
I never blamed you

A mother's love
Is a sacrifice
Together sleeping
Keeping it all

No sympathy
No eternity
One light for each undeserved tear

Beneath the candle bed
Two souls with everything yet to be said

Tarja Turunen
Vocals

Tuomas Holopainen
Synthesizers

Wishmaster

Master!
Apprentice!
Heartborne, 7th Seeker
Warrior!
Disciple!
In me the Wishmaster

Elbereth
Lorien

A dreamy-eyed child staring into night
On a journey to storyteller's mind
Whispers a wish speaks with the stars the words are silent in him
Distant sigh from a lonely heart
"I'll be with you soon, my Shalafi"
Grey Havens my destiny

Master!...

Silvara
Starbreeze

Sla-Mori the one known only by Him
To august realms, the sorcery within
If you hear the call of arcane lore, your world shall rest on Earth no more

A maiden elf calling with her cunning song
"Meet me at the Inn of Last Home"
Heartborne will find the way!

Master!...

Wishmaster
Crusade for Your will
A child, dreamfinder
The Apprentice becoming...

Master!...

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Bare Grace Misery

Sweet boy, come in
I am the dark side of you
Die for my sins
Like the One once did

Cinnamon bed
For your unashamed appetite
A figurante
This dance will hurt like hell

Oh, bare grace misery
Just a child without a fairytale am I
Dark but so lovely
A Little Match Girl freezing in the snow

Love lying, enticing
(Bare grace misery)
Crowning the moment
(Bare grace misery)
This is what I am
Bare grace for the end of days

Romantic scent
Spoiled Lucrece lies warm for you
There's no such priest
That can pray me to heaven

When done with me
Forget if you think I feel ashamed
A wild thing
Never felt sorry for anything

Love lying...

Crownless

Crownless again shall be the queen
Trophy on her grave remains unseen
A boat on the river confessing the sins
The Riddler revealing the deep hidden things

Crownless again shall be the king
A gull covered in oil with a broken wing
A hitcher on a road alone and lost
Iron sharpens iron... a truth that once was

Mine is the Earth and the sword in the stone
Mine is the throne for the idol
One fleeting moment and it is all gone
Crownless again
Will I fall ?

Roaming on razor-sharp castles
Ruling all but myself
(Now my night is laid to sleep)

One fragrant rose worth ten times what I am
A crippled begging a coin braver I ever was
Reflection from me-Devil dressed in white
Chasten the being
Become what I once was

Mine is the Earth...

Deep Silent Complete

In your creation heaven did decree
That in your arms sweet death should dwell

Deep Silent Complete
Black velvet sea
The sirens are calling for me

Saved my soul thinking "This song's a lie"
Sand on the shore is so dry

Deep Silent Complete
Black velvet sea
Brave day sinking in endless night

The age will say "This poet lies"
Heaven never touched earthly face
The age will say "This night was ours"
Blessed with the Deep
The Silent the Complete

Jukka Nevalainen
Drums & percussion

Emppu Vuorinen
Guitars

Sami Vänskä
Bass

Dead Boy's Poem

Born from silence, silence full of it
A perfect concert my best friend
So much to live for, so much to die for
If only my heart had a home

Sing what you can't say
Forget what you can't play
Hasten to drown into beautiful eyes
Walk within my poetry, this dying music
- My loveletter to nobody

Deep Silent Complete

In your creation heaven did decree
That in your arms sweet death should dwell

Deep Silent Complete
Black velvet sea
The sirens are calling for me

Saved my soul thinking "This song's a lie"
Sand on the shore is so dry

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Emppu Vuorinen
Guitars

Sami Vänskä
Bass

A 'MASTER'-CLASS IN SYMPHONIC METAL...

WHEREAS 'OCEANBORN' had been something of a challenge for the band to record, 'Wishmaster' – Nightwish Album No. 3 – came together quickly and with remarkably little fuss. Which is not to say that the studio was a pressure-free zone. When you're following up a gold-selling release, the weight of expectation (from fans and media alike) is bound to make itself felt to a degree; happily, however, Nightwish were able to focus *fully* on the task at hand, delivering a body of work that – in terms of ideas and execution – was generally acknowledged as their finest outing to date.

Released on May 8th 2000 (earlier than intended due to the music 'leaking' onto the internet), it was clear from the start that 'Wishmaster' was very much the *right* record at the *right* time. Not only did it enter the Finnish charts at No. 1, turning gold by the following month and holding firm in the Top 40 for a full 16 weeks, but it also made a mark on the German Top 40. The media in that country were quick to show support for the project, with *Rock Hard* magazine making 'Wishmaster' the 'Album Of The Month' ahead of new releases from Iron Maiden & Bon Jovi, and before long Nightwish found themselves being nominated for a high-profile Echo Award.

Quite simply, this latest album was turning heads – symphonic metal pushed to *genuinely* dizzy heights, with Tuomas giving free rein to his emotions (always the driving force behind his music & lyrics) and Tarja's performance spectacularly matching the breadth of the Holopainen vision. Also stoking up the drama was a male choir from the Sibelius High School, along with Babylon Whores' member Ike Vil (additional vocals on 'The Kinslayer') plus 15-year-old Sam Hardwick, who relished the chance to get involved on what has come to be regarded as the foremost composition of the 11 originally on display...

'Dead Boy's Poem' is, of course, the song in question – a piece of music very close to the heart of Nightwish fans worldwide (it was voted best NW song EVER on the band's website), and very close to the heart of Tuomas too, who still cites it as one of the pieces he's most proud to have created.

Given that the band's credibility was now very much on the up, it must have come as something of a surprise when their attention, or at least that of their keyboard player, all of a sudden turned towards the Eurovision Song Contest! 'Sleepwalker' (included here in its *original* guise – it was later 'heavied up') was the song submitted by the group for this annual event, and a version – complete with drum loop – was duly recorded in London with producer Merv De Peyer. For Tuomas, this whole escapade was essentially a way of having fun & games with the notoriously conservative Finnish music hierarchy, but a good tune is a good tune whatever the background... with the result that Nightwish won the viewers's vote by a clear country mile, and were it not for some underhand shenanigans would have been Finland's designated Euro entry for that year.

In retrospect, however, it probably all turned out for the best, as back on the rock'n'roll side of the street Nightwish were continuing to go from strength to strength – enhancing their reputation with great live shows, releasing an in-concert DVD ('From Wishes To Eternity – Live': the first of its kind by a Finnish band and the first music DVD to go platinum in their homeland) and securing an outlet for 'Wishmaster' in the US.

The band from Kitee now truly had the **world** in their collective sights.

Dante Bonutto
Spinefarm Records UK

"If you hear the call
of arcane lore,
Your world shall rest
on Earth no more"

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